

**T
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October, 1974

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

The device pictured on our cover this month was obviously designed to put the organ-grinder out of business. Although this didn't happen in New York until the administration of Fiorello LaGuardia, this "phonographic apparatus" was clearly a sign of the future and was one of the first interior-horn designs ever produced for the phonograph. Read and Welch credit John B. Browning with the first design in 1897, and it was only a few years when the outside-horn machines disappeared.

THE ANTIQUE PHONOGRAPH MONTHLY is published ten times a year, appearing in double issues for June-July and August-September. It is mailed first class to subscribers in the U. S. A. and Canada, and via surface or airmail to overseas. **APM** welcomes articles and news of interest to its readers and offers its advertising pages to all at reasonable rates. Please notify us promptly of your change of address to ensure receiving your copies on time. Please send all correspondence, subscription orders, and advertising to:

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Please multiply the price-per-ad by the number of times you wish the ad to appear. Thank you!

The 1974 **APM** Subscription Rate is \$5.50 a year. Any subscriber may have a free sample copy of **APM** sent to a friend if a first-class stamp is enclosed.

DEAR APM:

Question; When were the Idelia and Amberola I phonographs first produced?
A.G. Lincoln, Nebr.

Answer: The Ideal (later the Idelia phonograph) made its first appearance in the October 1907 Edison catalogs. The Amberola I was announced for delivery on December 1, 1909.

Question: Who invented the string-driven Echophone?
D.N., Freeport, N.Y.

Answer: The Echophone was invented in 1896 by Edward H. Amet and was first called the Metaphone, apparently from his name. It seems to be the first phonograph ever made with a tone-arm, although G. Bettini developed a more sophisticated model the following year.

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other collector would do the same. The best approach might be a series of articles in one of the collectors' publications, mapping out each label and inviting comments, before a final **Guide** is published. Naturally, a truly cooperative project should not be copyrighted for any one person's individual gain, but rather protected under a joint copyright."

Mr. Hager and APM have each been provided with a more detailed response to his letter, together with an explanation of the methodology used to evaluate WWTORM and detailed documentation of the results. A copy of Mr. Brooks' 7-page letter will be sent free to any APM subscriber who requests it and encloses a SASE.

OUR APOLOGIES

When we enclosed the little brochure last month advertising the Dancing Rastus figures, we never thought that anyone would consider it a current offering. But we did receive about two dozen orders for these entrancing figures, at \$1.00 apiece. Sadly, we had to return the orders with a brief note that these devices were sold around 1922. A dollar today just doesn't go as far as it used to!

If you are unable to locate the originals of Rastus, there is an excellent reproduction being advertised in the Miscellaneous For Sale column.

Our apologies for not marking the folders correctly.

TIM BROOKS REPLIES TO CHARLES HAGER

APM has received a lengthy letter from Charles Hager, compiler of **When Was That Old Record Made?** in response to Tim Brooks' review in the April, 1974 issue. Tim's answer follows:

"Unfortunately, in 3½ pages of rebuttal, Mr. Hager has offered no new information which would alter the conclusion that his dating guide is substantially and needlessly inaccurate. As mentioned in the review, I was able to check 48 specific data points in his booklet, and 47 of them turned out to be wrong. The mere fact that precise data were available against which to check **WWTORM** is an indication that Mr. Hager did not do his homework. Correct information on release (as well as recording) dates is available if you are willing to dig for it, and I do not think that it is unfair to expect an author who wants to claim 90% accuracy, and who intends to publish and propagate his research as widely as possible to do so.

"In a small, non-commercialized hobby such as ours, most readers are likely to trust what they see in print. Mr. Hager may have breached that trust inadvertently, but it is inexcusable for him to defend that breach on the grounds that it is too difficult to do better, or that he is the "only show in town" anyway. I'm afraid that many unsuspecting dealers and collectors will buy this little booklet, accept Mr. Hager's claim of accuracy at face value (as some reviewers have already done), disseminate his errors for years to come.

"Carefully written disclaimers in the introduction are no substitute for good research. It is certainly true that if you claim "year made or issued", many cases which are wrong under the second criterion might get by under the first. But this has got to be the very definition of slipshod research! The reader is told that "if the data are not correct for this, perhaps it is correct for that." If it is not an apple, maybe it's an orange. Maybe, and maybe not. Arranging recording (matrix) dates in catalog number sequence opens a whole new can of worms which will in turn introduce a whole new set of problems; for example, late release of masters recorded years before multiple

issues of a single matrix, cases where the two sides of a record were recorded at different times, and so on. Mr. Hager seems blissfully unaware of these possibilities or considers them relatively insignificant.

"What do you say about a guide which tells us that Victor 21055 was "made (or issued)" in 1927? One side was actually recorded in January, 1926 and the other in October, 1927, and the coupling was issued in February, 1928. Or one that tells us that Columbia A616 was "made (or issued)" in 1910? It, and those around it, came out in December, 1908, and could have been recorded up to several years prior to that. Unfortunately, these are not isolated examples.

"Logically, matrix numbers should be arranged by recording dates, and catalog numbers (which Mr. Hager has chosen) by issue date. Mixing the two simply compounds the already too numerous problems.

"Mr. Hager brings up one other point which was not mentioned in the review - his advertising. He claims (in **Hobbies**) that his booklet 'lists year of issue of over 100,000 78 rpm records by label and number.' This is just not so. What is given (for the series covered) is two numbers for each year, from which the reader can interpolate. Quite aside from the fact that most of these guide numbers are wrong, the statement would lead one to expect to see 100,000 numbers listed with a date for each, instead of the 1000 or so actually there. Mr. Hager's answer, that it is 'impossible' to describe his booklet accurately in a 'short' ad and that he will refund the purchase price to anyone who returns his booklet in 'a reasonably short time' (as some have), is hardly adequate.

"I am sure that Mr. Hager intended no deception. However, the decent thing to do at this point would be to withdraw the booklet from circulation, send a note to each purchaser explaining that certain widespread errors have been found in the data, and then republish it when he has assembled a reasonably accurate guide. I would certainly be willing to help him -- or any other researcher -- in such a project, and I would hope that every

(Con't on page 2)



August Strum's assistant delivers cylinder records to the younger set around 1905-06. This scheme of selling phonographs was mentioned by Joseph F. McCoy in the January issue of APM, although this must have been one of the earliest examples of this method of distribution. It is not known where this picture was taken, but what collector would pass up an opportunity to add a wagon to his collection? Well, the couch would have to go!

SECURITY PRECAUTIONS

Danny Zalewski of ROSLYN* N.Y. has reported to **APM** that on August 31, 1974, three of his phonographs were stolen. Since the thief concentrated on taking only complete machines, rather than even rarer incomplete ones, it seems that he was unfamiliar with the hobby. A Berliner Trademark, a Victor E, and a Victor I were taken. This is an appropriate reminder that collectors should have photographs of their machines on file, along with the correct serial numbers, in case stolen machines turn up in local antique shops and they have to prove ownership. **APM** will be glad to act as a clearing house for any suggestions on this topic. Ironically, it is probably a good idea to have a small number of friends and collectors know what you have, so that ownership is established and missing machines will be more easily traced.

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limitations of the book and admits the possibility of some omissions. Taking up this note, an evening of skimming revealed the following errors: On page 205, under Carl Flesch, the Edison record #47001 is listed as a Diamond Disc. It is actually a 12" Edison lateral cut recording; on page 399, under Kreisler, *Humoresque* by Dvorak on Victor record #74180 was also released with string quartet accompaniment; on page 553, under D. Oistrakh, Decca #DL9882, *Zortzico, opus 39* is actually *Adios Montanas Mias opus 37* by P. Sarasate; on page 749, under H. Szeryng, the cadenzas used in the Beethoven concerto conducted by J. Thibaud are actually by Joachim, and not Kreisler; G & T's 10" disc #27962, *Zigeunerweisen*, by Sarasate is absent, as is the reverse #27961, *Tarantella*. I also recall an HMV recording of Paganini's *Caprice #13*, played by Fritz Kreisler, which is not listed.

These few errors are of no real consequence in such a comprehensive study. All in all, it is a fascinating and enjoyable book. Indispensable to violin and record collectors, it points the way for future researchers. Mr. Creighton received the first Sound Research Grant from the Canadian Government, thus opening up the possibilities for funded discographical work elsewhere. The only real drawback is the price tag of \$125.00 for the book, although it is well worth it for the dedicated collector.

A companion series of LP discs entitled *Masters of the Bow* is also being issued concurrently and will continue for some years. I have sampled the first eight recordings and have found them to be well-engineered with well-planned programs. All violinists will eventually be represented and the series will include many rare and previously unobtainable records by Sarasate, Kubelik, Joachim, Prihoda, Burmester, Soldat, Vecsey, and many, many others to whet the collector's appetite.

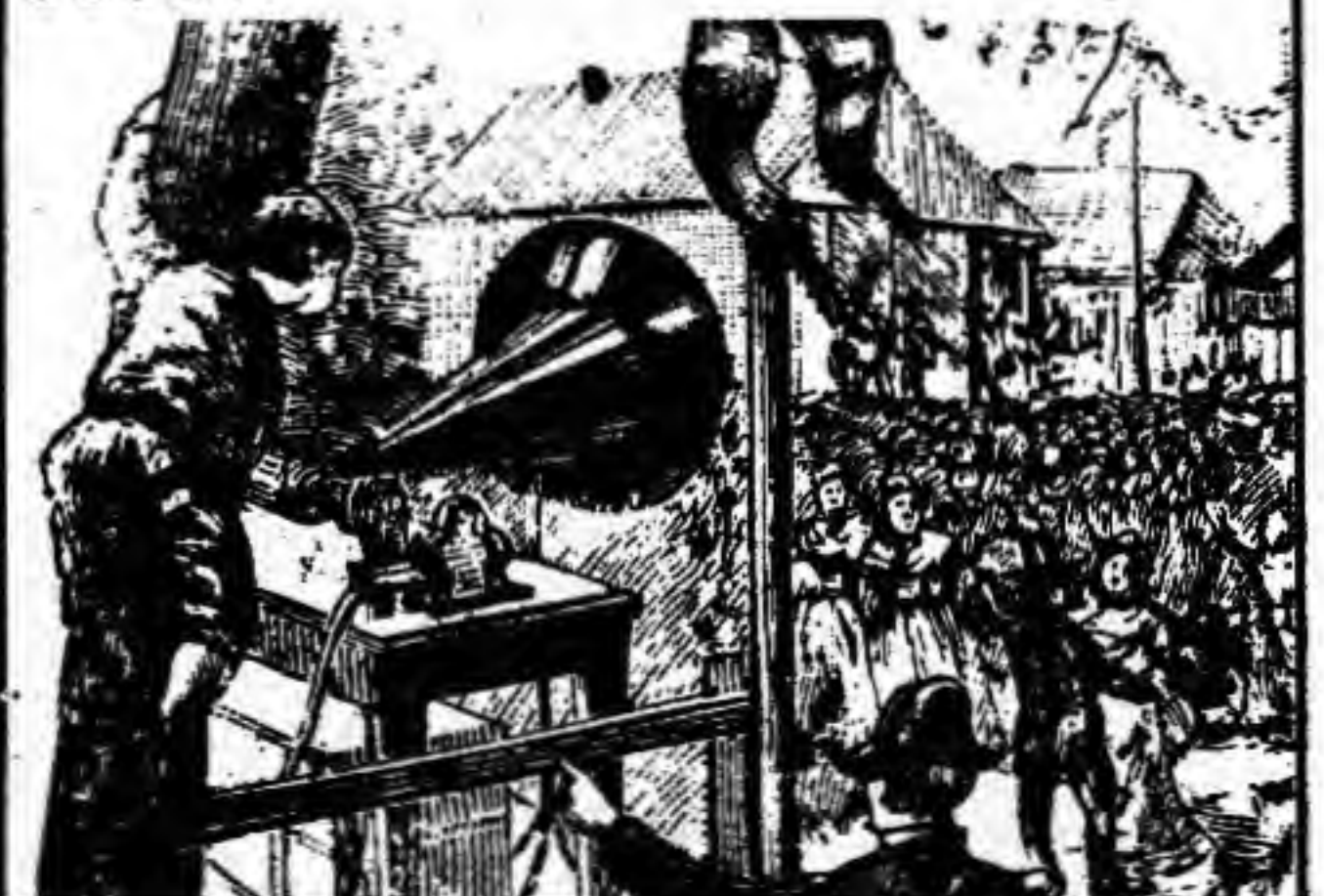
The only criticism I have here is the crowding of information on the rear record jacket. A short biography of the artist with an insert containing the recording information would have been superior.

The records sell for \$6.50 apiece, and they and the *Discopaedia* are available from The University of Toronto Press, Discopaedia, P. O. Box 99, Station 'D', Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6P 3J5. You may also write for the free descriptive brochures.

RAY WILE TO SPEAK

Researcher Ray Wile will present another talk at the Edison National Historic Site on October 18, 1974, at 8 pm. The subject will cover "Edison Tone-Test Recordings" and will focus on classical and semi-classical selections. It is also hoped to have several of the surviving artists who made these famous tests on hand for the occasion. Ernest L. Stevens, Edison's Recording Director, will be present, and it is rumored that Jim Walsh of **Hobbies Magazine** will be in the audience. Admission is free and the location of the Site is at Lakeside and Main in West Orange, New Jersey.

Ray's most recently published work is the detailed Introduction to the first **Phonograph Convention of 1890**. [**APM** will soon review this important book.] Other recent Wile discoveries include the date of Berliner's first successful recording experiment and the actual reasons behind the missing motors in the Edison Talking Dolls. **APM** had the pleasure of meeting with Ray and George Frow several weeks ago at the home of Wally and Leah Burt. A great deal of information was exchanged and Mr. Frow advised us that he is at work on a second edition of his book. Mr. Wile himself is completing a doctoral dissertation on the early history of the Edison Company. It is certainly a far cry from the old days when collectors had to be content with one or two books!



BOOK REVIEW

Arnold Sposato

The publication of *Discopaedia of the Violin* by James Creighton of the University of Toronto's Music Faculty is a dream come true for collectors of violin records. To quote from an accompanying brochure — "This discography, the world's largest, contains the complete recorded legacy of nearly 1800 violinists, spanning the period from 1889 to the present (1971). Included are all known cylinders, 78's LP's and extended/standard play discs, as well as private or unissued recordings, test pressings and pirated editions."

The work is truly monumental in scope and should make all other catalogs completely unnecessary for the collector of violin records. The main entries are arranged by artist in alphabetical order. For each artist, the names of the works recorded are arranged alphabetically by composer. Also included are matrix numbers where known, all known record catalog numbers, original scoring plus arrangement, and accompaniment and key signatures. It is thus possible to identify different "takes" which were issued under the same catalog number.

The book seems to be as complete as is humanly possible and represents a staggering amount of research. Although the descriptive brochure doesn't clearly say so, this serious research is intended for the "serious" violinists only, not the popular ones. A table of record manufacturers gives country of origin, series and size of record. Its 1004 pages weigh in at 4½ pounds and are sturdily bound.

Part 2 of the *Discopaedia* lists composers and their compositions together with the names of all artists who recorded each work. The popular names for compositions are also cross-indexed.

The introduction clearly states the purposes and
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NOTICE

Please remember that the price of *Edison Cylinder Records, 1889-1912, With an Illustrated History of the Phonograph* will rise to \$14.95 as of January 1, 1975. All orders received before that date will be honored at the old price of \$12.95 ppd. This book will not be reprinted when it is sold out. Send all orders to *The Antique Phonograph Monthly*. Thank you.

Blueprints have been completed for the Edison 2-minute stylus, and production will now proceed. These genuine sapphire styli will be the first items available for APM's C Reproducers.

PHONOGRAPHS FOR SALE

Attention Cylinder/Disc machine collectors. Send SASE for sales list of cylinder and disc machines. 50¢ for cylinder record list. Benjamin's Talking Machines 6427 NE 129th Place, Kirkland Wash. 98033.

Edison Opera Phonograph, mint like new, all original. Round mahogany 2-door spindle cylinder record cabinet, holds 216 records, 1 extra Edison Opera reproducer, plus 100 cylinder records. All these pieces in beautiful condition, \$3000.00. Write or call Mrs Minnie Storer, P. O. Box 196, Broderick, Calif. 95605. Tel. (916) 372-3793. (8-75)

PHONOGRAPHS FOR SALE

60 cylinder machines with horns, 10 Amberolas, 35 78rpm machines, 800 cylinder records, 1 Dual 15½" Discs Console Columbia. Ed Seute, 4th & Riley, Easton, Kans. 66020. Or call (913) 773-8200.

Edison Idelia with Model O Reproducer and mahogany cygnet horn; Also Edison Concert, Home with oak cygnet horn, Columbia 20th-century BC Graphophone, Columbia Type AG Graphophone Grand, Victor Type R. G. Fattic, Box 2, Andrews, Mich 49104. Tel. (616) 471-7576. (8-74)

Rare Edison Type R Reproducer, fine condition, \$100. Also unusual miniature metal gramophone with small horn, ca. 1915, labelled *Orophone*. 100.00 plus post. Write or call Ed Pelo, 7502 Ridge Blvd., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11209. Tel (212) 680-1991.

Vincent's Victrolas - Mechanical music and inside horn phonograph specialists for South Florida. Vincent's, Box 11, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33302. Tel (305) 587-9054

PHONOGRAPHS WANTED

Want Columbia Type AA Graphophone, and rear-mount Columbia cylinder Graphophones. Also Oxford model, and Maroon Gem in fine condition. Write or call Howard Hazelcorn, 595 Grenville Avenue, Teaneck, N. J. 07666. Tel. (212) 836-6293. (8-74)

Buying and trading for phonograph parts, parts machines, horns, records, etc. Also want music boxes, and roller organs. Entire collections considered. Please send price and description with first letter. L. M. Lackey, Jr., 505 Harmony Drive, Statesville, N. C. 28677. (4-75)

PHONOGRAPHS WANTED

Wanted: Pathe disc horn machine. Pathe records, any quantity. Also Busy Bee disc machine and records. Price and condition please. Jack Hanson, 15107 Little Spokane Drive, Spokane, Wash. 99208.

Looking for Edison Opera, Idelia, or late Concert phonographs. These should be in above-average condition. Please send details and cost to Don Mayer, 5031 Lochside Drive, Victoria, B. C. Canada V8Y 2E8.

I am interested in purchasing Edison Phonographs. Please send me your lists and pictures. Thanks. Wm. J. Mellor, 518 N. 8th Street, Fairview, Okla. 73737.

HELP: I NEED PARTS!

Eleven-panel mahogany-grained metal cygnet horn or mahogany wooden bell only for Edison Idelia Phonograph. Bill Endlein, 42 Blackburne Terrace, W. Orange, N. J. 07052.

Need motor only for Edison "Combination-type" Standard Phonograph. Also need 2 covers for Edison Model B Standard. Will buy or trade. Allen Koenigsberg, 3400 Snyder Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11203.

Need lead screw for Amberola VIII. Gary Landi, 521 West Encanto, Phoenix, az. 85003. Thank you. (8-74)

Wanted: Cygnet or morning-glory horns for Edison, Columbia and Victor phonographs. Long playing reproducers for Diamond Disc and Model B Edison machines. J. L. Bailey, 1431 S. St. Louis, Tulsa, Okla. 74120. (9-74)

Glass tube and horn mount for string-drive Echophone. Don Nelson, 50 Norton St., Freeport, N. Y. 11520.

HELP: I NEED PARTS!

Need most motor parts for Edison Home Phonograph, last patent date 1898. Stanley L. Sarnicki, 309 W. Smith Street, Corry, Pa. 16407.

RECORDS FOR SALE

Old records on open-reel tapes. Send SASE for free list. Frank Olin, 18123 80th Ave. W., Edmonds, Wash. 98020. (9-74)

Hundreds of cylinder records of all types, 2-min. wax and Indestructible, 4-min. wax and Blue Amberol. No lists, by appointment only. Allen Koenigsberg, 3400 Snyder Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11203.

Bessie Smith, Basie, Bach, Bartok, etc. Send for complete list. J. Lewis, 41 Fisher Avenue, Princeton, N. J. 08540 (8-74)

AUCTION! Personalities (Cohan, others); SF Standards including Bert Williams; Hillbilly; Pop; Vaudeville. Free list! Hurry! Auction closes November 15th. Write: La-Walt Recordings, Dept. K., Box 201, Oriskany, N. Y. 13424. (8-74)

Unique offer. Limited number of Master Records available. These highly polished silver and copper gems were used to impress the tunes on the 78 blanks. All 10" size. No choice of music possible. Postpaid only \$7.50 each, or three for \$20.00 ppd. "The Dials", 190 West J Street, Benicia, Calif. 94510. (8-74)

RECORDS WANTED

7" discs wanted — especially Berliner. Will buy any category or label. Any playable condition. Also pre-1925 catalogs. Send lists. Thanks. Ken Barnes, 261 S. Vinedo Avenue, Pasadena, Calif. 91107. (7-75)

RECORDS WANTED

George Cohan, Blanche Ring, Elsie Janis, Roy Atwell, Marguerite Farrell, Irene Franklin, Mitzi Hajos, Eleanor Painter, Frank Pollock. Jack Raymond, Washington Gas, Washington, D.C. 20080

Edison discs wanted. Please send for my numerical wants list. Will pay cash or will trade rare Berliner discs. E. J. Mathewson, 141 Fourth St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M8V 2Y6. (1-75)

Wanted: Busy Bee cylinders, Uncle Josh on the Blue Amberols, any books or literature on Cal Stewart. Please describe and price. Al Parrish, 4615 Stafford Avenue, Lansing, Mich. 48910 (9-74)

Wanted: John McCormack cylinders, 7 & 10-inch G & T's. High prices paid. Also will trade copies of unpublished records or material. James J. Sheehan, 115 Saratoga Avenue, Yonkers, N. Y. 10705.

Odd-label acoustically recorded discs wanted - Rex, Eagle, etc. Also pre-1925 dealer's record and phonograph advertising. Send lists please. Thanks. Ken Barnes, 261 So. Vinedo Avenue, Pasadena, Calif. 91107. (7-75)

One 5" Pink Lambert cylinder record. Will trade 2" pink Lamberts or Let Us Not Forget by Edison on Diamond Disc, or whatever. Allen Koenigsberg, 3400 Snyder, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11203

PRINTED ITEMS FOR SALE

Interested in coin slot devices of all kinds? Subscribe to the only newsletter in the field. Appears monthly. Send \$7.00 for a one-year subscription to *THE COIN SLOT*. Les Druyan, 681 Sherman Court, Westbury, N.Y. 11590

PRINTED ITEMS FOR SALE

Ma Collection de Phonographes a Cylindres, 38 page book, illustrated: 14 Edisons, 10 Columbias, 11 Pathe (including one never before seen). \$5.00 postpaid. Jean-Paul Agnard, 8635 avenue Prevert, Charlesbourg, P.Q., Canada G1G 5B3. (8-74)

Back issues of *APM* still available. Complete set from January to December 1973, only \$6.00 postpaid. *Directory of Phonograph and Record Collectors*, lists 250 collectors and their wants, only \$3.50 postpaid. Allen Koenigsberg, 3400 Snyder, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11203.

TALKING MACHINE REVIEW INTERNATIONAL: A bi-monthly magazine for all interested in cylinder or disc phonographs; the firms that made them; the artists on the cylinders and discs; repairs; and all the many other facets of the history of recording. Annual subscription is \$4.00, or \$8.00 by airmail. Write for free sample copy if genuinely interested. We have an expanding list of reprints of old catalogs, posters and books. **TALKING MACHINE REVIEW*** 19 Glendale Road, Bournemouth, England BH6 4JA.

To add to your enjoyment of our hobby, why not try a subscription to the *City of London Phonograph and Gramophone Society*? We despatch our magazine, *The Hillandale News*, by airmail for \$6.00 per year or \$5.00 via seamail. There are six issues yearly dealing with machines, records of all sorts, artists, and biographical notes. Subscriptions should be sent to: B. A. Williamson, 157 Childwall Valley Road, Liverpool, England LI6 1LA. Payment should be made to C.L.P.G.S.

PRINTED ITEMS WANTED

Original operating manual for the Edison Standard Phonograph. Dave Picardi, 260A Main Street, Medford, Mass. 02155. (8-74)

Want: Read & Welch, *From Tin foil to Stereo* in excellent condition. John Marrone, 175 Evandale Road, Scarsdale, N. Y. 10583.

Wanted: Copy of *Tin foil to Stereo* book. (please price when responding). E.B. Ellis, 1106 Eastwood Circle, Columbia, Mo. 65201.

For projected article on the origins of Uncle Josh, we would appreciate any information placing this character prior to 1897, when he first appeared on Berliner discs. Thank you.

ITEMS FOR TRADE

Will trade original Victor oak horn. Need some regluing and refinishing. Will not ship. Allen Koenigsberg, 3400 Snyder, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11203.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Ragtime Rastus jointed dancing doll for Victor and other disc phonographs. Excellent reproduction, admired by collectors. Complete mechanism and guaranteed to satisfy you. 50¢ for color photo, or send \$42.00 ppd. George Zalewski, 30 Lakeview Dr., Patchogue, N.Y. 11772. (7-75)

Hardbound facsimile edition of Edison Lab Manual, 182 pages, entitled *The Phonograph and How to Use It*, only \$12.95 postpaid for first copy, \$10.95 for second "gift" copy, if ordered at same time. This offer good until December 1, 1974. Order from Allen Koenigsberg, 3400 Snyder, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11203.

MISCELLANEOUS WANTED

Want cylinder record cabinet for Edison Amberola Model 30 phonograph. Harry La Gant, P. O. Box 3611, San Diego, Calif. 92103.

Collections of old stereo views, on glass or cardboard. No Underwoods or Keystone plates please. Please describe and price. Thanks. Al Weiner, 392 Central Park West, (16R), New York, N.Y. 10025.

Just getting started in collecting. Would appreciate any contacts from others in the Madison area. (Sue — forgive me). J. W. Jefferson, 5826 Bartlett Lane, Madison, Wisc. 53711.

Say you saw it in APM!

ANTIQUÉ SHOPS

When in New York, visit **BACK PAGES ANTIQUES** for quality brass and oak at reasonable prices. Located at 3011 Avenue J, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11210. Or call (212) 252-7874. Mention this ad for a friendly *Hello!*

SERVICES

Custom repairs. Almost any gears or parts made. Write first. Star Phono Service, 609 Fermery Drive, New Milford, N. J. 07646 (8-74)

Restoration and repairs of music boxes and phonographs. Edison cylinders for sale. The Old-Time Co., Box 333, 304 E. Jackson, El Campo, Texas 77437.

PLEASE NOTE: All ads for the November issue must be received before **October 21, 1974.** Remember, when you advertise in **APM**, you get results!